

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1156

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Joe Thomas Vickers of Goodlettsville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Reverend Joe Thomas Vickers, the beloved pastor of Goodlettsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Vickers was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with wisdom and compassion for thirty-five years as the Pastor of Goodlettsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which position he earned the love and admiration of his congregation for his kind heart, humble spirit, and faithful, selfless, and effective pastoral leadership; and

WHEREAS, Joe Vickers attended the University of Mississippi and earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Bethel College and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Memphis Theology Seminary before completing his education at the Billy Graham School of Evangelism; and

WHEREAS, in addition to giving so much of his life as a dedicated church leader, Reverend Vickers also nobly served his country, rendering sterling service to the United States Army for two years; and

WHEREAS, strongly dedicated to community and public service, Joe Vickers founded The Enrichment Foundation, established the Goodlettsville Ministerial Association, organized and managed the Christian Benevolent Christmas Program, and was a proud member of the Goodlettsville Masonic Lodge and a Shriner, serving as Chaplain for Al Menah for seven years; and

WHEREAS, he committed his singular skills and leadership abilities to several religious organizations, serving as the moderator of the Nashville Presbytery and the Commissioner to the Cumberland Presbyterian General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Joe Vickers also provided unwavering and meritorious service as a Chaplain for the United States House of Representatives, the Tennessee State Senate, and the Goodlettsville Police and Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Reverend Vickers was honored as the "Citizen of the Year" and "Citizen of the Month" by the Goodlettsville Chamber of Commerce; Governor Don Dunquist proclaimed "Joe Vickers Day" in the State of Tennessee; and Mayor Bobby Jones proclaimed "Joe Vickers Day" in Goodlettsville on two separate occasions; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Vickers was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Catherine Vickers, and his brother, Herman Vickers; and

WHEREAS, Joe Vickers is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Lynn Cook; his brother and sister-in-law, Jerry and Mary Nell Vickers; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Sue and Max Elkins and Patsy and Pete Martin; his grandchildren and their spouses, Lyndsey and Eric Kuhl, Clint Cook, and McCall Cook; his great-grandchildren, Caden and Cooper Kuhl; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Joe Vickers leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, he was truly a man of God and a pillar upon which his congregation and the greater Davidson County relied; the effects of his unparalleled life will be felt for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Joe Thomas Vickers, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Reverend Vickers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.